

W. Sidney Pittman

Washington, D. C.

MR. PITTMAN is considered the leading architect of his race. He is the only colored architect who has ever been awarded a contract by the United States government for the plans of one of its buildings. His principal national achievement was the construction of the Negro Building at the Jamestown Exposition, an honor which he won by competition.



W. S. Pittman

He planned and superintended the Collis P. Huntington Memorial Building, Tuskegee's largest and costliest building, and evidences of his intelligent skill are to be found in every section of the South.

He was born in Montgomery, Ala., April 21, 1875. His parents were ex-slaves. He was the youngest of the family. He attended the public schools of Montgomery and Birmingham, and

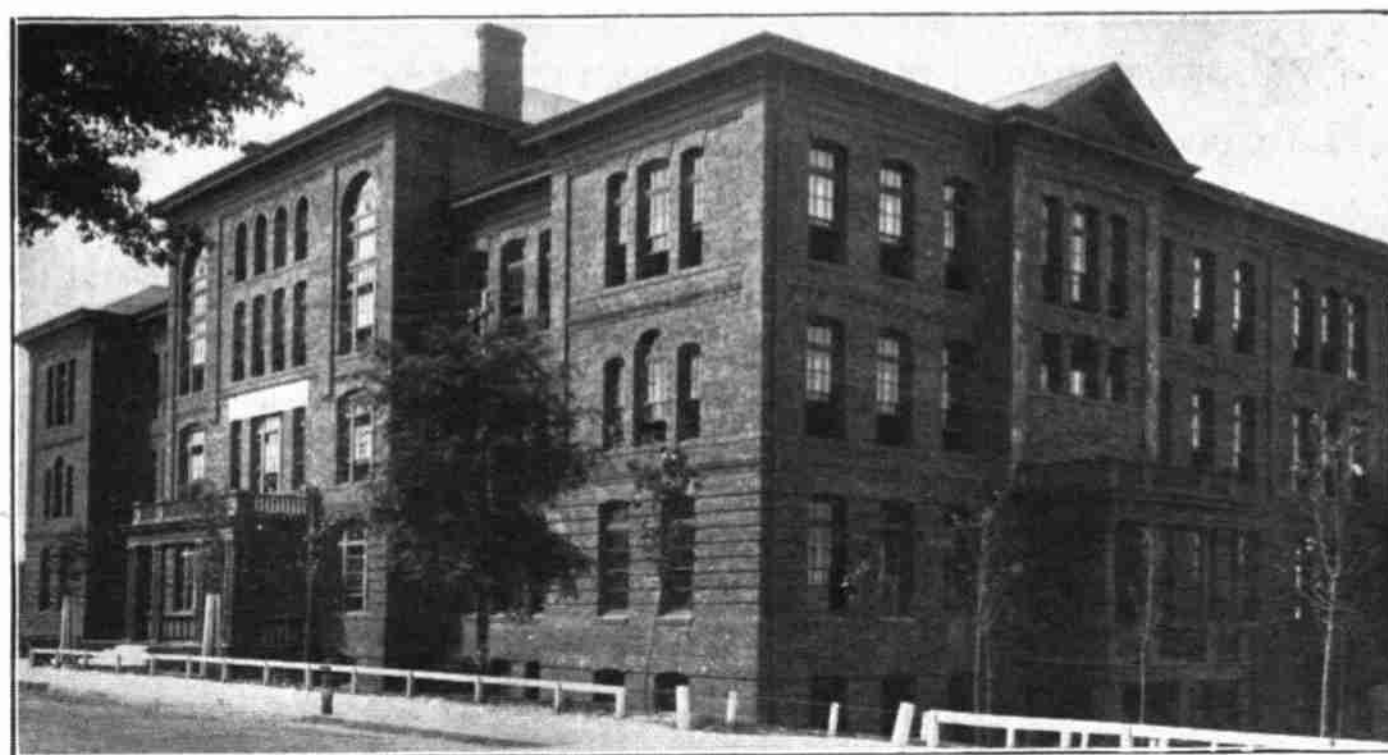
at the age of seventeen entered Tuskegee Institute as a "work" student. He "worked" his way through the school, paying all his expenses. He graduated at Tuskegee in 1897, in wheelwrighting, structural work, and in a three years' course in architectural drawing. He also finished in the normal department, receiving a fine equipment for future service.

Soon after his graduation at Tuskegee he was admitted to Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, Penn., and by means of financial support, advanced by the Tuskegee Institute, was enabled to complete the regular course in architecture and a special course in mechanical drawing. He made such an impression upon the instructors that the faculty of Drexel Institute voluntarily voted him a free scholarship in architecture and all allied subjects. He graduated in 1900 as one of the "honored" students of the class, receiving special mention by the president at the awarding of diplomas.

Immediately following his graduation at Drexel he returned to Tuskegee, according to regular agreement, and was placed in charge of the department of architectural drawing and of all the planning and superintending of buildings for the Institute.

During the five years he remained at Tuskegee more than \$250,000 worth of buildings were constructed after his plans for

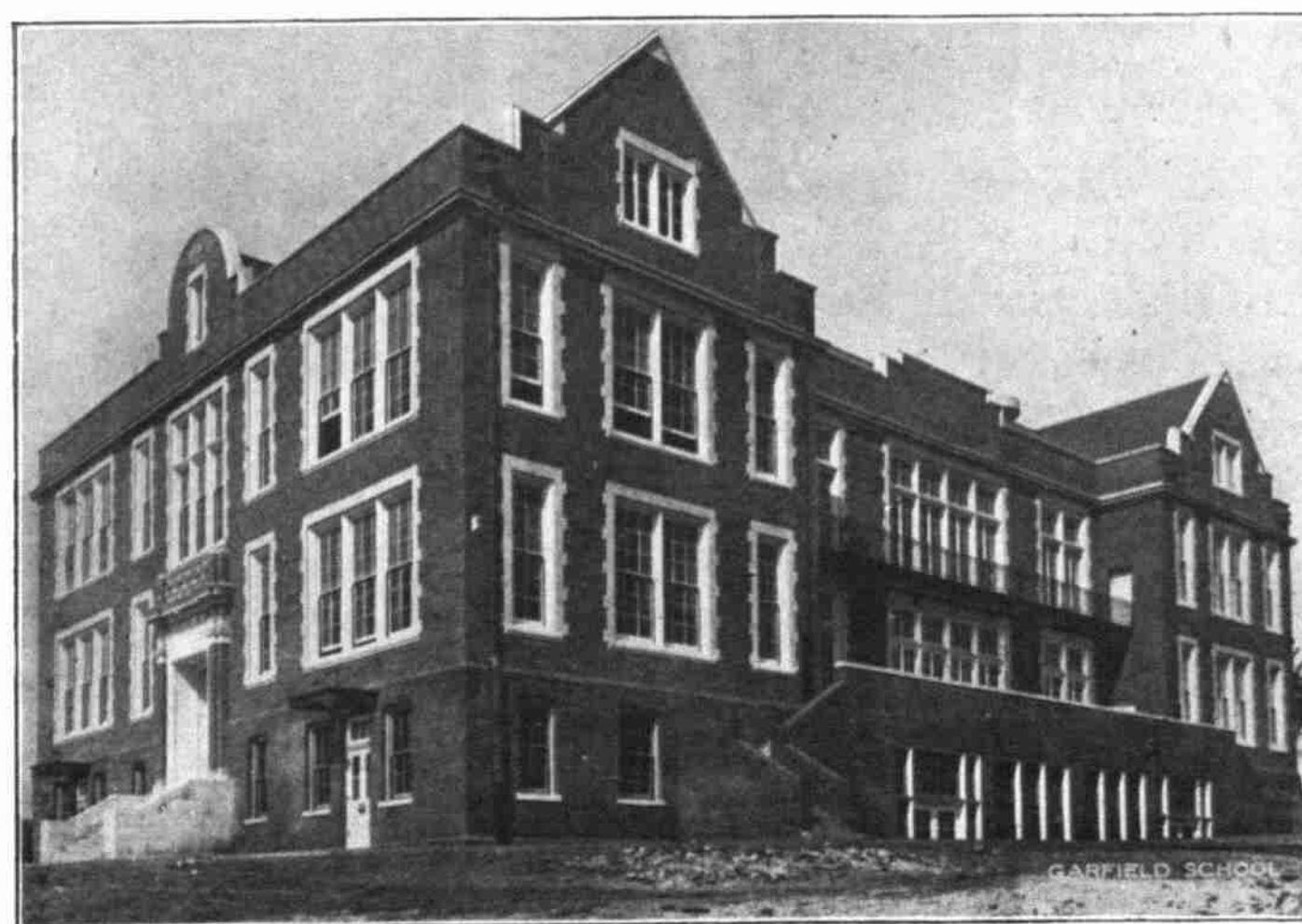
the school, besides nearly \$150,000 worth of work in other parts of the South. In addition to the Collis P. Huntington Memorial Building, Douglass Hall, Emery dormitories, Carnegie Library, and Rockefeller Hall were constructed while he was at Tuskegee.



C. P. HUNTINGTON MEMORIAL BUILDING, TUSKEGEE, ALA.

In October, 1905, he opened offices in Washington, D. C., having resigned his position at Tuskegee. His success in Washington has been of marked character. His clientage is about evenly divided between the white and colored. He is regularly employed and recommended, not only by colored real estate men, lawyers, contractors, and builders, but by white contractors and real estate lawyers.

In Washington he has had many important commissions. In



GARFIELD SCHOOL, WASHINGTON, D. C.